UNDP

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

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APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF
PAKISTAN

IPF: (1987-91) $73 299 000

(PAK/88/032) - Co-ordinated Research Project for the Development of Sheep and Wool

Date of approval by the AC:[1]	27 March 1991
Expected duration:	Four years
Proposed executing agency:	FAO
Government implementing agency:	Pakistan Agricultural Research Council
Proposed UNDP contribution:	$1 306 700 Source of funds: IPF
Total UNDP budget:	$1 306 700

Project background

Pakistan has the tenth highest sheep population in the world. According to a 1986 census, there were 26 million sheep in Pakistan. The contribution of sheep to meat consumption was about 22 per cent. Mutton is the preferred meat and practically the only meat for the migratory population. Sheep milk is also important for families subsistance under the migratory system of livestock raising. About 27 per cent of sheep are owned by landless livestock raisers.

Wool and wool products occupy an important place in the national economy. Export earnings from wool and wool products have significantly increased during the last few years. The total current wool exports account for 8.6 per cent of the annual foreign currency earnings.

In spite of the importance of the sector in the economy of the country, no major developmental efforts have been made in the past. In 1988, a report of the National Commission on Agriculture singled out the importance of increasing meat and wool production. The major constraints identified are low-breed productivity, shortage of feed, lack of veterinary support, high mortality and production wastage, and farmers' lack of knowledge about improved methods and practices. The Pakistan Agricultural Research Council is presently implementing a co-ordinated research programme on sheep and wool improvements including field work. However, the organization lacks the latest know-how in order to take the research findings to the general public for development of this sector. The proposed project is designed to assist the Government to carry out this work.

[1] This Fact Sheet reflects the status of the project/revision at the time it was approved by the Action Committee; modifications to the project/revision may have occurred subsequently.

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Description of project

The project is aimed at the implementation of research results in the surrounding areas of two sheep research farms, one each in Punjab Province and NWFP. In co-operation with the provincial extension services, reinforcement of the research activities and field applications of the research results will be undertaken in and around these two centres for sheep producers and, by organizing demonstration farms to cover established routes, also for nomads. The two research stations involved have been undertaking research on relevant aspects of sheep rearing since the mid-1950s.

The proposed research will stress genetic, nutritional and veterinary measures for the improvement of the stock and assess the impact of the resulting changes. It will also involve a cross-breeding programme of fine wool sheep with the Rambouillet breed for improved fine wool sheep, improving lohi breed stock for better carpet wool production, establishing nutritional methods for augmenting sheep performance and introducing simple veterinary measures to improve health and performance of sheep. In-service training in sheep recording and selection procedures will be organized for trainees from all provinces. In the light of the results of field applications and testing of technology packages developed at the two sheep research farms, provincial and national sheep development plans and strategies will be upgraded for implementation throughout the country.

Inputs

UNDP will provide the services of a senior sheep production specialist/chief technical adviser (48 work-months), consultants in such areas as wool biology and sheep shearing (14 work-months), national consultants (60 work-months); group training and study tours on flock recording, selection techniques and organization of flocks for genetic improvement purposes (48 months); improved stock of breeding sheep, laboratory and field testing equipment, vehicles and office equipment; and miscellaneous costs.

Financial data

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Personnel	737 900
Training	48 000
Equipment	440 800
Miscellaneous	80 000
Total	1 306 700

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